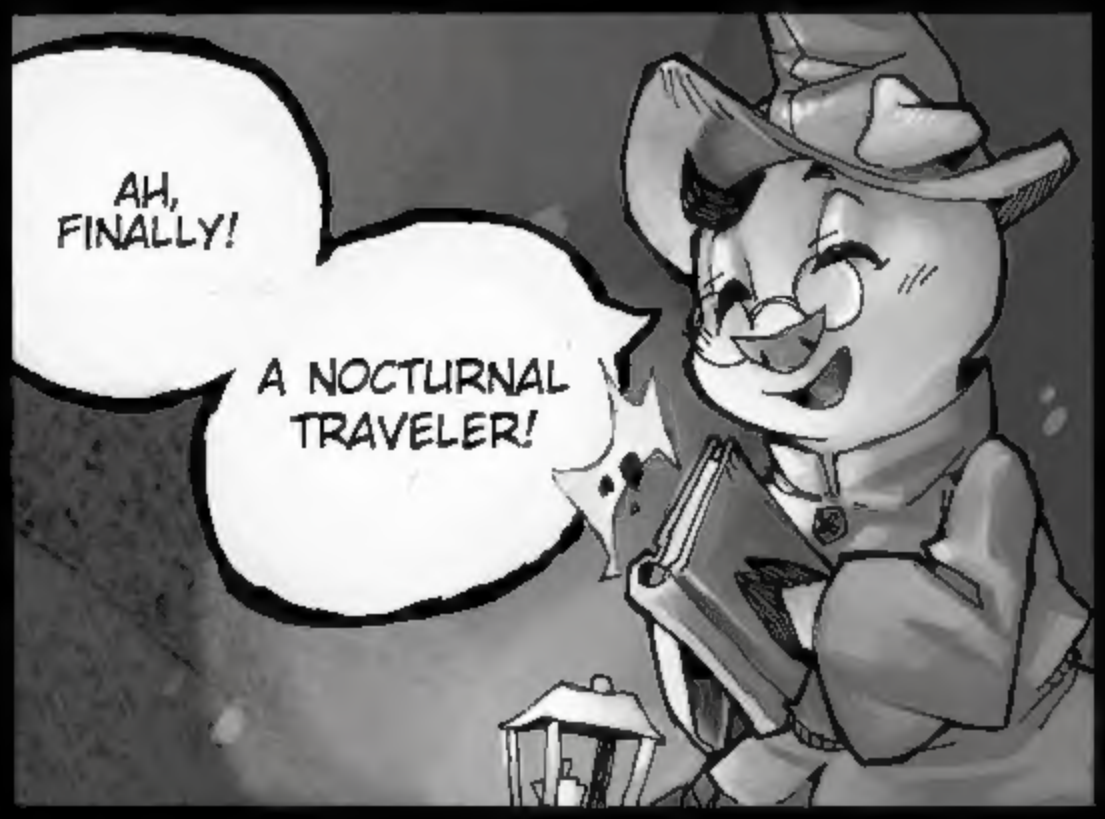
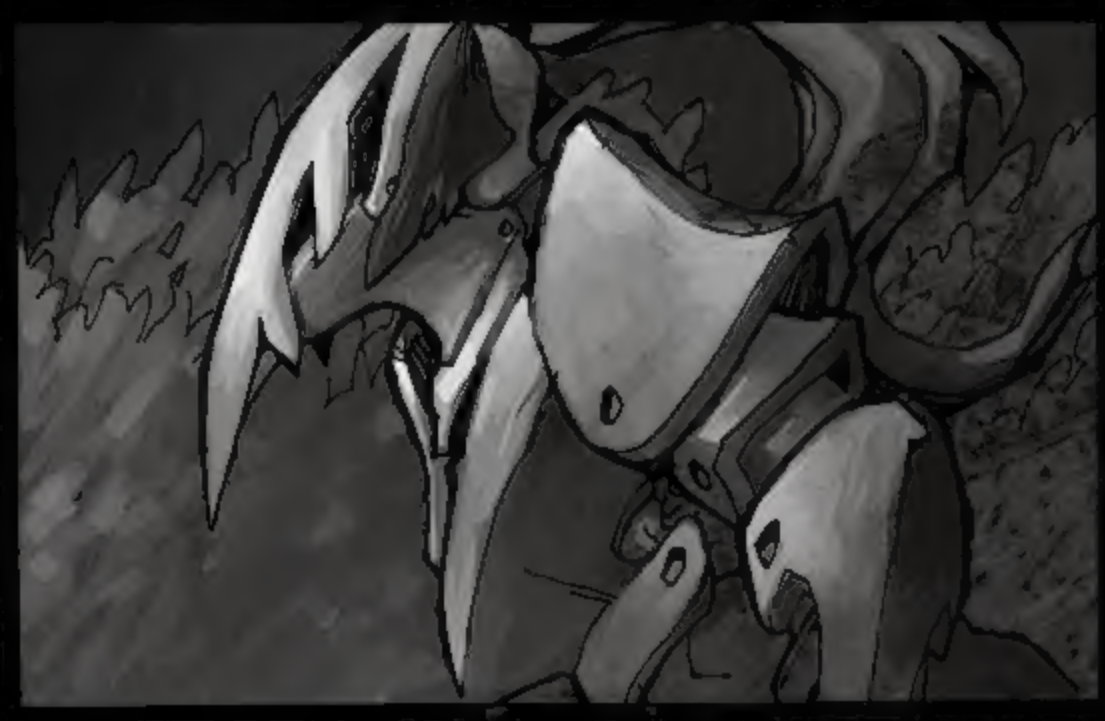
!


AH, FINALLY!
A NOCTURNAL TRAVELER!



GOOD NIGHT, TRAVELER!

UH...

I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU AROUND BEFORE!

I CAN GUIDE YOU TO THE CLOSEST VILLAGE IF YOU'RE LOST.

GASH

?

LUSH

UGH!!

SHK!

Writer: Lucas Cangussu
Illustrator: Henry Schumann

KNOT, CAN WE APPLY YOUR BANDAGES?

...

I THINK I LOST A WHISKER

JUST LET YOUR UNCLE DO THIS ALREADY!

-OW, OW!-

DON'T WORRY, I PROMISE IT'LL BE QUICK!

TOC TOC

AT THIS HOUR?

GOOD NIGHT MISS ISABEEHLLE! SORRY TO SHOW UP LIKE TH

THAT'S ALRIGHT. WHAT HAPPENED?

WE'RE ORGANIZING A MEETING AT THE VILLAGE. THE CONTENTS OF THE LAW THAT GUARD POSTED ARE... WORRISOME.

WE NEED YOU THERE FOR US TO START.

IF YOU HAVE TO GO, I CAN KEEP AN EYE ON KNOT, ISA!

I'LL BE BACK SOON. TAKE CARE.

-=I'LL BE FINE MOM-

UH...

WHY DON'T WE HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING TO EAT, KNOT?

OH!

G-GOOD IDEA UNCLE GECKO!

MY HANDS WON'T STOP SHAKING...

I HOPE IT'S BECAUSE OF MY AGE...

IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE HAD TO SHOOT SOMEONE...

WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! IF IT ISN'T KNOT'S FAMOUS CHEESE SANDWICH!

WORD AROUND THE STREET IS THAT IT'S DELICIOUS!

THAT'S NICE! IT'S ONE OF THE ONLY THINGS I KNOW HOW TO DO WITHOUT RUINING EVERYTHING.

HEY, STOP THAT! YOU KNOW THAT ISN'T TRUE.

FOR EXAMPLE, YOU SHOWED THAT ROYAL GUARD THAT YOU DO NOT MESS WITH SPIRAL VILLAGE!

YOU JUST HAVE TO BE CAREFUL...

...SO YOU DON'T START FIGHTS YOU HAVE NO CHANCES OF WINNING.

THAT GUARD... HE SAID CYRUS AND I WOULD NEVER JOIN THE ROYAL GUARD.

HE LAUGHED AT US AND SAID IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR OUR KIND TO STEAL AROUND...

I JUST THOUGHT THAT DEFENDING OURSELVES WOULD BE THE BEST WAY OF SHOWING HE WAS WRONG!

AT LEAST YOU SHOWED HIM THAT NO ONE THAT MESSES WITH YOU COMES OUT CLEAN!

HAHA-- OW!:- WELL THAT'S TRUE!

I BET HE'LL NEVER MANAGE TO WASH OFF THAT CAPE!

HA HA HA!

!

I WONDER IF YOUR MOM WILL RETURN SOON? IT'S GETTING LATE

THOSE MEETINGS DON'T USUALLY TAKE LONG!

IF YOU HAVE TO GO, DON'T WORRY!

I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!

-=HOHOHO!=-

UNLESS A CERTAIN DIRTY CAPED HIENA SHOWS UP, RIGHT?

C'MOOON, UNCLE GECKO!

BLAM

ARF

ARF

UFF

H-HEY, MOM!

ISA! HOW WAS THE MEETING?

...THAT OLD GOAT CROSSED THE LINE.

AGAIN.

UH, BUT... ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M GREAT!

WHAT'S NOT IS THIS NEW LAW.

KNOT!

CLIMB DOWN HERE, YOU NEED TO HEAR THIS.

OKAY, I'M COMING...

"THE CAPITAL'S COUNCIL REVISED, DISCUSSED AND FINALLY APPROVED...

# Law CXII - "Monoclass"

Regulating and limiting then, the functions exerted in society based upon each animal's species and the jobs and classes known in Litos, seeing to create order and optimizing services in favor of the local population by it's people. Please attend your local bureau for the list of classes and jobs your race can be. After this law is posted...

FAILURE IN COMPLYING WILL BE CONSIDERED A CAPITAL FELONY...

AND WILL BE PUNISHED ACCORDINGLY."

A LAW THAT RESTRICTS CLASSES IN RELATION TO SPECIES? IT EVEN HAS A LIST...

THAT'S KINDA HARSH, ISN'T IT?

HARSH!?

WHAT THE HELL IS THE CAPITAL THINKING!?

CATS ARE...

NOT IN HERE.

CALM DOWN, ISA LET'S...

IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME THE CAPITAL DOES SOMETHING LIKE THIS! WE CAN'T CALM DOWN NOW!

HERE IT SAY'S THAT CATS...

CAN'T BECOME PALADINS ...

PAFT

I'LL STAY IN MY ROOM A BIT.

MAYBE NOW SHE'LL FINALLY LET GO OF THIS SILLY ROYAL GUARD IDEA.

!

C'MON, ISA. YOU KNOW BEING A PALADIN IS KNOT'S DREAM SINCE SHE WAS A BABY

YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE, GECKO.

A WARRIOR'S LIFE IS HARD AND DANGEROUS.

THERE'S NO WAY A MOTHER WON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

ALSO...

I HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH YOU LATER.

IN PRIVATE.

DROP BY AFTER KNOT'S IS ASLEEP

OKAY!

WELL THEN. I'LL BE ON MY WAY!

SEE YOU SOON!

THANKS, GECKO!

I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

BLAM!

I NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS LAW.

NOT FOR ME...

BUT FOR HER.

HUNF

THAT STUPID GUARD!!

WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS!? I'M GONNA BE A PALADIN NO MATTER WHAT HE SAYS!

WHEN I JOIN THE ROYAL GUARD, I'LL SHOW HIM!

KNOT?

AAH! MOM!!

I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE.

I JUST GOT HERE.

I MADE US DINNER.

CAN I SIT THERE WITH YOU?

OF COURSE YOU CAN, MOM!

AHAHA:-

I HOPE SHE WON'T SCOLD ME BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER...

SO, KNOT.

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

WHY DID YOU ATTACK THAT GUARD?

KNOT, YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK ABOUT YOU WANTING TO BE A PALADIN...

"WHY DON'T YOU CHOOSE A CLASS THAT IS MORE SUITED FOR YOU?"

I *ALWAYS* TOLD YOU THAT.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY IS ONLY MORE PROOF OF HOW DANGEROUS THAT DREAM OF YOURS IS.

-:A-AH! S-SO... I DID THAT UHH...

ATTACKING A GUARD LIKE THAT!? YOU'RE LUCKY YOUR UNCLE WAS KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU!

YOU COULD'VE BEEN KILLED! DID THAT THOUGHT EVEN CROSS YOUR MIND?!

BUT...

WHAT MATTERS NOW IS THAT YOU ARE OKAY.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

YOUR PARENTS WOULD DO THE SAME IN YOUR PLACE.

HUH?

MY PARENTS?

YES, YOUR CAT PARENTS.

WHAT?! BUT YOU ALWAYS TOLD ME THEY WERE JUST FARMERS!

I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR KEEPING THIS FROM YOU, KNOT. I NEVER KNEW HOW TO TELL YOU...

BEFORE THEY LEFT...

YOUR FATHER WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE ROYAL GUARD ...

AND YOUR MOTHER WAS A FORMIDABLE CAT WARRIOR!

NO WAY !!!

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE. YOU'RE NOT SAYING THAT JUST TO CHEER ME UP, RIGHT?

NO! NO!

IT'S JUST THAT...

I WAS AFRAID OF TELLING YOU AND ONLY STRENGTHENING YOUR DREAM TO BE A PALADIN.

BUT YOU'RE ALL GROWN UP NOW AND...

I THINK YOU'RE BIG ENOUGH TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES.

THANK YOU SO MUCH, MOM!

LIKE I HAD A CHOICE! YOU NEVER LET GO OF THAT SWORD, EVER SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE!

BUT THAT "MONOCLASS" THINGY IS GONNA MAKE MY LIFE WAY HARDER...

upupu

I'M SURE THAT LAW WILL BE REVOKED.

NEVER LET ANYONE TELL YOU WHAT TO DO!

THAT'S ON YOU TO DECIDE!

LEAVE IT TO ME! I'LL BE JUST LIKE MY CAT MOM! AND AS STRONG AS JOANNA B'ARK!

BUT DON'T BE GETTING TOO HAPPY NOW...

WHAT!? BUT YOU JUST TOLD ME TO DO WHATEVER I WANTED!

BEFORE LEARNING TO BE A PALADIN, YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO KEEP YOUR ROOM CLEAN, LITTLE LADY

BOOOO!

ACTUALLY, IT'S TIME YOU GET TO SLEEP!

BUT IT'S STILL EARLY MOM!

I'M GLAD THEY FIGURED THINGS OUT!

I WAS GETTING WORRIED...

GOOD NIGHT, MY DAUGHTER

FIRE!

HEY THERE, ISA!
OH!<- HOLY DOVE!

YOU ALMOST SCARED ME TO DEATH, GECKO!
I THOUGHT YOU'D WARN ME BEFORE YOU GOT HERE.

I IMAGINED YOU DIDN'T WANT KNOT LISTENING IN ON OUR CONVERSATION.

ESPECIALLY BECAUSE I CAN ALREADY GUESS WHAT IT'S ABOUT

WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NEW LAW.

I KNEW IT! EVERY TIME THE CAPITAL PASSES A NEW LAW, YOU DO THIS!

WOOSH

LISTEN TO ME!

THIS TIME IS GOING TO BE DIFFERENT...

DIFFERENT HOW?

BECAUSE THIS TIME WE'LL DO SOMETHING.

OKAY, SAY WE ACTUALLY OPPOSE THE LAW THIS TIME...

WHAT CAN A LONE MAGE AND ARCHER DO *ALL BY THEMSELVES* AGAINST THE CAPITAL'S ARMY?

-=HUNF

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE MISTAKEN.

WE'RE NOT GOING ALONE AGAINST THE ROYAL GUARD.

WE'RE GOING TO GATHER OUR OWN ARMY!

FOO

I-IS SHE SERIOUS?!

YOU KNOW I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE THAT'S BOTHERED BY WHAT IDO BAHL AND HIS MINISTERS ARE DOING.

B-BUT, AN ARMY!? HOW DO YOU INTEND TO GATHER THAT MANY PEOPLE?!

HEH!

THEIR OWN "MONOCLASS LAW" WILL DO THAT FOR US.

THE CITIZENS OF LITOS WILL NOT SUNDELLY CHANGE THEIR LIFESTYLE BECAUSE OF A NEW LAW.

AND I WON'T STAY SILENT AGAIN. I WANT TO GATHER A RESISTANCE AND SHOW THE CAPITAL WHAT WE'RE CAPABLE OF.

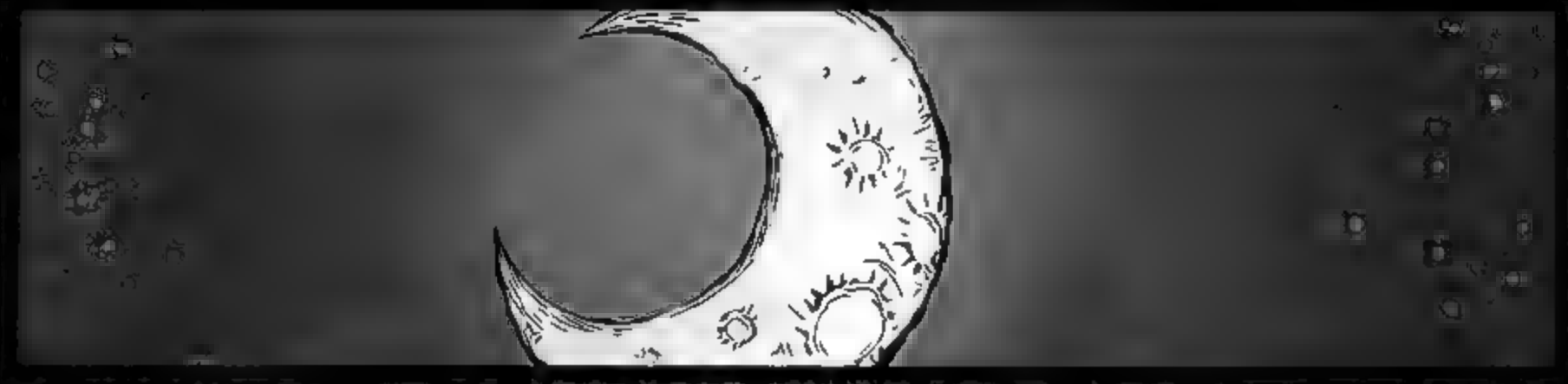
BESIDES, I WANT TO DO THIS FOR KNOT AND FOR ALL OF THOSE THAT DREAM ABOUT THE FUTURE!

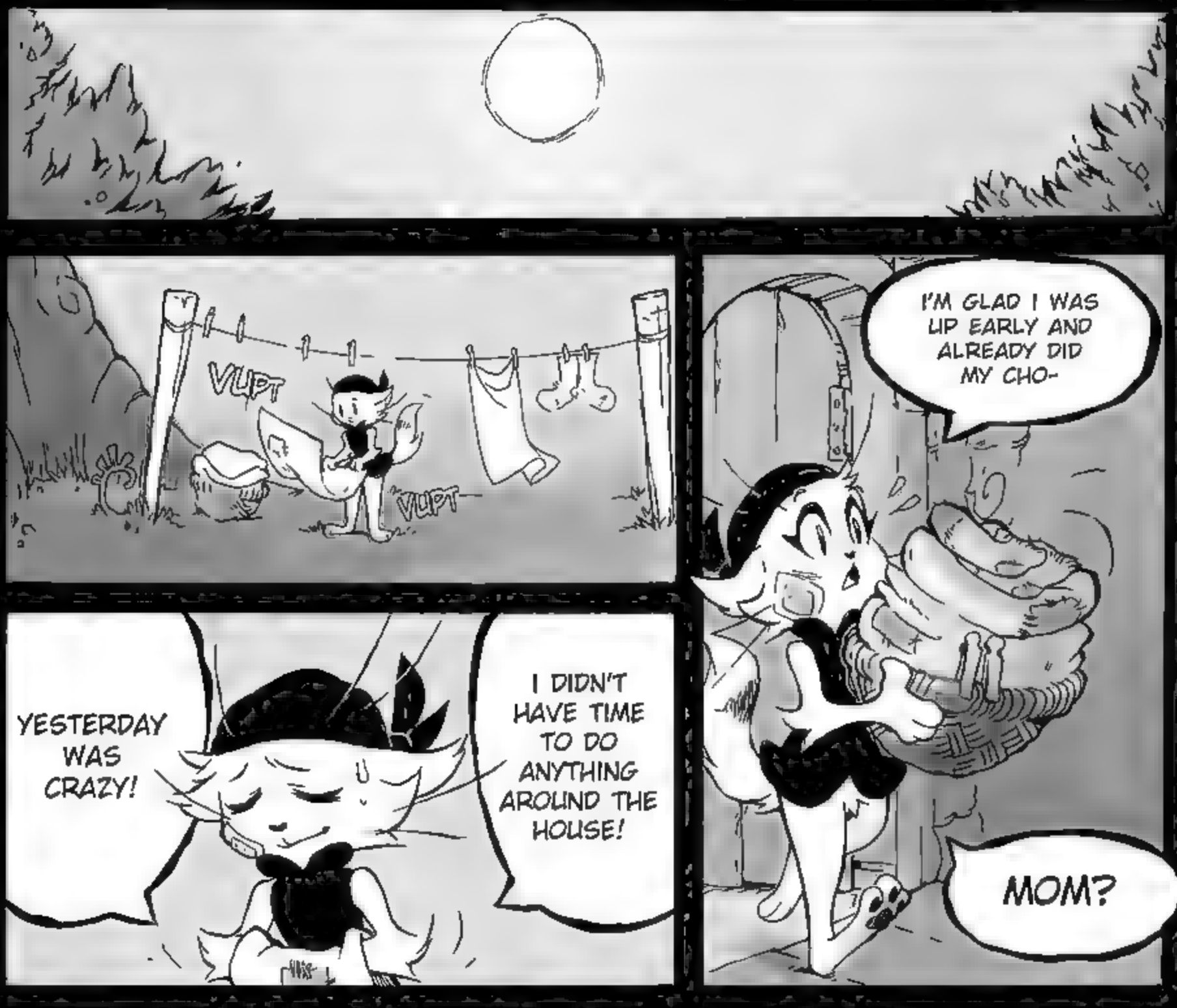
IT WOULD BE GREAT TO HAVE AN ALLY AND A FRIEND LIKE YOU TO HELP ME, GECKO.

ISA, I- LOOK... I'M SORRY ...

I DON'T KNOW...

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE ABLE TO DO AGAINST REPTILES LIKE ME...

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VLIPT
YESTERDAY WAS CRAZY!
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DO ANYTHING AROUND THE HOUSE!
I'M GLAD I WAS UP EARLY AND ALREADY DID MY CHO-
MOM?

WHAT'S WITH THE STAFF AND THE BIG BAG?

ARE YOU GUIDING SOMEONE TO THE NEIGHBOURING VILLAGE?

DAUGHTER ...

PLEASE SIT.

?

WE NEED TO TALK.

I NEED YOU TO TRUST ME... AND TO BELIEVE IN WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.

I NEED TO LEAVE TOMORROW. IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG TRIP AND I NEED YOU TO STAY HERE, IN SPIRAL VILLAGE.

UH... OKAY, BUT WHY?

I CAN'T SAY

HUH... ALL RIGHT...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING? YOU NEVER LEAVE THE SPIRAL WOODS!

I CAN'T SAY.

IF I'M SUPPOSED TO TRUST YOU, HOW COME YOU AREN'T TELLING ME ANYTHING?!

WHY ARE YOU HIDING THINGS FROM ME, LIKE I'M A CHILD?!

THAT'S NOT FAIR...

I'M SORRY ...

I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING.

The next day...

VUOOUMM

SO YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN YOU'LL BE BACK?

THE ONLY THING I KNOW IS THAT I'M DOING THIS SO YOU CAN FULFILL YOUR DREAM.

I LOVE YOU, KNOT.

I LOVE YOU TOO, MOM.

AND TAKE CARE OF THE HOUSE, LITTLE LADY.

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT!

GOOD LUCK, MAMMA!!

TAP

TAP

TAP

FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T COMING.

WELL, I COULDN'T LET MY FRIEND LEAVE ALONE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS!

SO...

LET'S GO!

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ALL BY MYSELF IN THIS BIG, EMPTY HOUSE?

VUUUSHH

ALTHOUGH... THERE'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN UP THERE!

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS BIG CHEST...

MOM NEVER TOLD ME...

CLIC

CLIC

IT'S TIME TO FIND OUT! -OHOHO!-

WHAT IS... ALL THIS?

BAM

IT'S LIKE A SHIELD! COOL!

AND THIS IS AN OLD DIARY?

ARE THOSE... MY PARENTS?!

MY DAD MAY BE ALIVE?!

SORRY, MOM!

I GOTTA GO AND FIND OUT ABOUT THE TRUTH!

Flyp ~ Chapter II, END